

Columbia United Church Of Christ

November 3, 2024
"All Saints Day"



CUCC

Columbia United Church of Christ

CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God's children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;
No matter where you are on your faith journey;
No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression, or identity;
No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality, or politics;
No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status, or family structure;
No matter your social, economic, educational, legal, or life circumstances;
You are welcome here!

Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.

**Columbia
United Church
Of Christ**



November 3, 2024

10:30 a.m.

"All Saints"

**indicates that all are invited to stand, if comfortably able*

*"... I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long."
-Psalm 146:2*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

Steve Jannetti
Phillip Keveren

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 146)

Sue Ann Schaefer

Do not put your trust in princes or elected leaders;
In mortals, in whom there is no help

**Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
I will praise God as long as I live!**

Happy are those who find their help in God;
Happy are those whose hope is in the LORD, their God.

**Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
I will praise God as long as I live!**

God sets the prisoners free; God opens the eyes of the blind.
God lifts up all who are hurting; and upholds those who are oppressed.

**Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
I will praise God as long as I live!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Hymn

"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

#295

*Opening Prayer

Sue Ann Schaefer

God of Majesty, we gather before You in worship today in union with all the Saints who have passed into glory before us and with all the Saints who will come after us. We honor the lives of our family and friends we have lost by sharing Your love. As we come to Your table with these saints, we take their flame into our hearts and into our lives, praying that our lives might shine bright, illuminating the world with Your love. With all the Saints, we offer our lives to You. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

We are all Saints of the Church, called together to do God's work in the world. But even when we forget this basic call, God still loves us and forgives us. Through our repentance and God's grace we are forgiven, beloved and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

“Seek Ye First”

***Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
And God's Righteousness!
And all these things will be added unto you
Al-le-lu, Alleluia!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus”

(Sung as children return to their seats)

***Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear
Things I would ask him to tell me if he were here.
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
Stories of Jesus, tell them to me!***

Old Testament Lesson

Ruth 1:1-21

Sue Ann Schaefer

The Book of Ruth tells the story of hope in the midst of despair. In this first chapter, even as Naomi has lost everything, the presence and perseverance of Ruth gives her hope. Just as Ruth gave hope to Naomi, Jesus' promise of New Life and Resurrection give us hope.

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Gospel Lesson

Mark 12:28-34

Sue Ann Schaefer

One of the scribes asks Jesus about the greatest commandment; which Jesus replies is, “Love God with all your heart and all your soul and with all your mind and love your neighbor as yourself.” The scribe takes this wisdom in, prompting Jesus to tell him that with this wisdom, he is not far from the Kingdom of God.

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Anthem “Death Shall Not Destroy My Comfort”

Celebration Singers
arr. Mack Wilberg

Sermon

“The Presence of God”

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

“For All the Saints”

#299

Remembering the Saints of the Church

For all those Saints who have gone before us, we give thanks.

Candles will be lit in their memory, as each name is read.

Larry Noxon	Charlene Wallace	Linda Ferguson
Grant Shaffer	Jean Strothmann	Larry Michael Elliott
David Martin	Beatrice Gordon	Lowell Dale Weiss
Edward Saxenmeyer	Jim Rogers	Robert Crowley
Lisa Michelle Cantin	Wayne Hackman	Richard Schieber
Art Johnson	Rick Le Grand	Joanne Farley

Unison Prayer

Into your hands, O Merciful Savior, we commend these Saints. Acknowledge them, we humbly pray, sheep of Your fold, lambs of Your flock, children of Your redeeming. Receive them into the arms of Your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the company of all the Saints in Light. Amen.

Invitation

The invitation is simple: come and eat. Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul. We receive the bread and the wine connected to the ages. Woven into this time, the hopes and fears of all the generations are present in this meal. There is great joy here! Nobody is turned away when God is the host!

With those who have gone before us, the Saints of the Church, who celebrated this sacred meal before us, we worship and glorify God.

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayer; Invocation

Blessing the Children “We Come as Guests Invited” *(insert)*

Institution; Fraction; Distribution

Please come forward via the center aisle to receive and share communion with the Saints of the church who have gone before us. All are welcome to participate in this memory meal, celebrating the communion we all share as Saints of the Church.

Communion Music “Eat This Bread” Steve Jannetti
Jacque Berthier

Prayer of Thanksgiving Pastor Rick

We thank You, Most Holy God, for refreshment at Your table where, along with Your saints, we receive all Christ’s gifts. Give us the grace to praise You with our lives, our words, and our deeds. We give thanks for the heritage of our ancestors and for their faith which built this place where we can worship freely. And now, rooted in heritage and faith, we gather as our ancestors have in days past, singing the prayer You taught us:

The LORD's Prayer (sung by the congregation, led by Casey Wood)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Misson Moment VAC Christmas Drive Mahree Skala

2024 Financial Update Christine Staelens

Invitation to the Offering

*To give online text "GIVE" to 573.240.4041
You can also give online by visiting our website:
www.columbiaucc.com*

Offertory "But the Lord Is Mindful" Steve Jannetti
Felix Mendelssohn

*Prayer of Dedication Sue Ann Schaefer

God of our Ancestors, as the Saints of the church who have gone before us dedicated their lives to You, we also dedicate ours. Take these gifts and let them continue the legacy of love left behind by those who went before us. Through these gifts, we dedicate ourselves to you, loving God. Amen.

*Benediction Pastor Rick

*Response "Let There be Peace on Earth"

**Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with me!
Let there be Peace on Earth; the Peace that was meant to be!
With God our Creator, Children all are we!
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony!
Let Peace begin with me; let this be the moment now!
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be Peace on Earth; and let it begin with me!**

*Postlude "Finale from Water Music Suite" Steve Jannetti
George Frédéric Handel

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Custodian: Caleb Berry	calebprenticeberry@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Sue Ann Schaefer
Ushers:	Mark & Jane Duncan
Greeters:	Jolene Kirchhoff & Sue Ann Schaefer
Technology:	Brent Marcks & John Graves
Hospitality:	Lena Muench & Mark Duncan
Council Stewards:	Lena Muench & Mark Duncan

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Pat Forward
Ushers:	Charlie Marcks & Paula Wilson
Greeters:	Kristy Hayward
Technology:	Doug Privitt & Judi Privitt
Hospitality:	Mary Lorber
Council Stewards:	Mary Lorber



Online giving

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NURSERY CARE is available for children in kindergarten and younger in room #201 in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR HELP Sunday School needs some volunteers! They are looking for Sunday School Leaders and Greeters/Floaters. Everything is preplanned and explained prior to classes. Talk to Lena Muench to volunteer. Thank you for your help!

VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST 11/10

Everyone is invited to come to the Veterans Day breakfast on November 10 at 8:30 a.m.! The Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team is coordinating a breakfast for everyone, with a guest speaker from the Veterans Administration Hospital. Come and eat and help honor our Veterans!

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE RESUMES 11/13

Steve Jannetti will be leading Taizé prayer services again leading up to the Advent Season, starting November 13. The service of prayer and meditation will begin at 5:30 p.m. each Wednesday evening, and conclude by 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend; 11/13 & 11/20, 12/4, 12/11, & 12/18 (no service 11/27.)

FESTIVAL OF SHARING QUILT AUCTION ONLINE NOW

This year's auction, benefitting the Church World Service blanket program that assists those rebuilding after a disaster, will be online today thru November 9. This is a great opportunity to pick out Christmas gifts while helping a good cause. To learn more, visit www.festivalofsharing.org.

ADVENT CANTATA/BANQUET

This year's Advent Cantata and Advent Banquet will be December 8; that will also be the day for our annual "Cookies by the Pound" sale to benefit the Nurture & Education Designated Fund. Mark your calendars and look for RSVP information about the Advent Banquet. You don't want to miss that Sunday!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	11/3	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Nurture & Education Ministry Team	12:00 p.m.
Mon	11/4	Membership & Care Ministry Team	5:00 p.m.
		Worship & Music Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
		Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	11/5	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
Wed	11/6	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Sun	11/10	VETERANS DAY	
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Veterans Breakfast	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Youth Trip to Ronald McDonald House	12:00 p.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Those recovering from flood and hurricane damages

Diane Murphy... health issues (Dean & Jan Barry's daughter)
Marion Moreau... recovering from surgery (Gary Moreau's wife)

Lauren Helmreich... health issues

Jim & Sharon Elliott... health issues

Julia Marsh... health issues (Donna Marsh's Daughter)

Jennifer... diagnosed with cancer (Edie Diel's niece)

Joanne Good... health issues (Sue Beckman's friend)

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our partnership friend

The people of Palestine, Israel, and Ukraine

Health Issues:

John Adams, Cheryl Cobb, Barry Kirchhoff
Connie Hackman Fairley, Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Alice Moon

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Did you know we have a Prayer Team here at CUCC, lifting up the prayer concerns of our congregation? If you are interested in joining our Prayer Team or have a prayer request for our team to lift up please contact

*Melba Shaffer (573) 474-2997 whals@centurytel.net
Or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com*

CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:

Welcoming all God's Children;

Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;

Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;

Building a supportive church family;

***Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach***

Unison

1 I sing a song of the saints of God, faith-ful their whole lives
 2 They loved their God and they lived that love. It was lov - ing that made them
 3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past, there are hun-dreds of thou - sands

through, who brave - ly la - bored, lived, and died for the God they
 strong. They did what was right, for Je - sus' sake, lived just - ly their
 still. The world is filled with liv - ing saints who choose to

loved and knew. And one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, and an -
 whole lives long. And one was a proph - et, and one was a priest, and an -
 do God's will. You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a

oth - er a shep-herd in pas - tures green: they were saints of God, if you
 oth - er was slain by a fierce wild beast: there is no earth-ly rea - son,
 church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea: for the saints are folk like

know what I mean. God, help me to be one, too.
 none in the least, why I should-n't be one, too.
 you and like me, and I mean to be one, too.

Heb. 12:1

William W. How, 1864; alt.

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the
 2 You were their rock, their refuge, and their might: you, Christ, the
 3 Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold, live as the
 4 Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine, we feebly
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the

world their stead-fast faith confessed, your name, O Je - sus,
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you
 saints who nobly fought of old, and share with them a
 strug - gle, they in glory shine; yet in your love our
 ear the dis - tant triumph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed.
 were their one true light.
 glo - rious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 faith - ful lives en - twine.
 gain, and faith grows strong.

This traditional All Saints Day hymn originally consisted of eleven stanzas written for the Sarum Hymnal (1869) and set to a tune by that name, Sarum. It has grown in popularity since it was later paired with the enduring Sine Nomine in The English Hymnal (1906).

Tune: SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.4.
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

1. We come as guests in - vit - ed when Je - sus bids us dine,
 2. We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing from Christ the grace we need,
 3. One bread is ours for shar - ing, one sin - gle fruit - ful vine,

his friends on earth u - nit - ed to share the bread and wine;
 and in our hearts be - liev - ing on him by faith we feed;
 our fel - low - ship de - clar - ing re - newed in bread and wine:

the bread of life is bro - ken, the wine is free - ly poured
 with won - der and thanks - giv - ing for love that knows no end,
 re - newed, sus - tained, and giv - en by to - ken, sign, and word,

for us, in sol - emn to - ken of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
 we find in Je - sus liv - ing our ev - er - pres - ent friend.
 the pledge and seal of heav - en, the love of Christ our Lord.

Ruth 1:1-21

1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons.

2 The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.

3 But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons.

4 These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years,

5 both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

6 Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food.

7 So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah.

8 But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me.

9 The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud.

10 They said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.”

11 But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?”

12 Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons,

13 would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me.”

14 Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

15 So she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.”

16 But Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

17 Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!”

18 When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

19 So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them; and the women said, “Is this Naomi?”

20 She said to them, “Call me no longer Naomi, call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt bitterly with me.

21 I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty; why call me Naomi when the LORD has dealt harshly with me, and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?”

Mark 12:28-34

28 One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?”

29 Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;

30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’

31 The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

32 Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’;

33 and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

34 When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.